

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

SOUTHWESTERN RANDOLPH HIGH SCHOOL—OUR MOST VALUABLE TEAM

HON. HOWARD COBLE

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 12, 2007

Mr. COBLE. Madam Speaker, on behalf of the Sixth District of North Carolina, I would like to personally congratulate the Southwestern Randolph High School varsity softball team on its win at the North Carolina High School Athletic Association 3-A softball championship. On June 2, 2007, the Southwestern Randolph Cougars accomplished a phenomenal feat in completing the season with an almost perfect record of 31–1. Even more remarkably, the team finished the season with no losses to other 3-A schools and was able to claim the first state championship for the school since 2001.

Congratulations are in order for Anna Maness who was named the tournament's Most Valuable Player, not only because of her accomplishments on the field, but also because of her attitude about the game. In fact, Maness told the Asheboro Courier-Tribune, "I couldn't have done it without defense; I couldn't have done it without the offense. It should say Most Valuable Team." It is this kind of teamwork that makes the entire Southwestern Randolph team special. Maness should also be commended on her impressive efforts during the tournament, striking out 16 batters and allowing no runs.

Looking at the roster, it is easy to see that the most noteworthy thing about this group of young women is their ability to work together. The seniors on the team: Valerie Campbell, Brittany York, Jessica Hogan, Natalie Haithcox, Ashley Seawell, and Kendra Cox finished their four years together on the team with an impressive 110–13 record, making it to the final tournament every year but one. Cougars Head Coach Steve Taylor told the Asheboro Courier-Tribune that he credited the success of the seniors to the fact that, "all their work ethics were positive toward reaching their goals."

The entire roster contributed to Southwestern Randolph's latest softball triumph. The other members of the team included: Brittany Marsh, Stacy McCaskill, Ashley Jones, Nicole England, Kristen Simmons, Dalton Brower, Brittany Garren, Amelia Frye, Holly Berry, Katheryn Auman, Cynthia Hayes, Hannah Hughes, and Erin Billups.

Those who didn't wear a uniform, but contributed in so many other ways, can equally share the accolades coming to Southwestern Randolph's champions. We start with Head Coach Steve Taylor, Assistant Coaches Lee McCaskill, Danny Campbell, and Wendel Seawell, Athletic Director Gary Leach, and Principal Dr. Chris Vecchione. Congratulations are also in order for the faculty, staff, students, and families of Southwestern Randolph High School on another outstanding athletic season.

Madam Speaker, I join the people of the Sixth District of North Carolina in congratulating everyone involved in this outstanding athletic achievement. I am glad to see that these young athletes were able to see their hard work and determination lead to a state championship.

JOHN HAYDEN CHIAVETTA MAKES HIS MARK ON THE WORLD

HON. BOB ETHERIDGE

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 12, 2007

Mr. ETHERIDGE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate John Bryan and Rebekah Sparrow Chiavetta on the birth of their second child, John Hayden Chiavetta. John was born on Thursday, May 24, 2007 and weighed 6 pounds and 15 ounces. My wife Faye joins me in wishing John and Rebekah and their daughter, Charlotte, great happiness upon this new addition to their family.

As the father of three, I know the joy and pride that John and Rebekah feel at this special time. And I know that Charlotte is excited to have a brother with whom she can share the wonders of childhood. Children remind us of the incredible miracle of life, and they keep us young-at-heart. Every day they show us a new way to view the world. I know the Chiavettas look forward to the changes and challenges that their new son will bring to their lives while taking pleasure in the many rewards they are sure to receive as they watch him grow.

I welcome young John into the world and wish John and Rebekah all the best as they raise him.

MILITARY CONSTRUCTION AND VETERANS AFFAIRS APPROPRIATION ACT, 2008

HON. EARL BLUMENAUER

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 12, 2007

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Madam Speaker, as we consider the FY 2008 Military Constructions Appropriations Act, I am concerned that we are significantly under funding our commitment to clean up communities impacted by base closures in the past. There is an estimated \$3.5 billion backlog of environmental cleanup at bases closed during the previous BRAC rounds. Unfortunately, the funding levels in this bill are not enough to make a dent in cleaning up bases closed in previous BRAC rounds.

The bill does include significant funding to deal with cleanup at bases closed in the 2005 BRAC round. The irony is that the new round of BRAC has so much money appropriated that current outlays will spend less than 10%

in the upcoming fiscal year of its budget authority while in the same vein the Legacy BRAC account will be spending nearly half of its budget authority in the same fiscal year. I appreciate that there is an increase above the President's budget for this effort, but it is simply not enough to make up for past years of Congress abrogating its responsibility of environmental restoration of past BRAC rounds.

Communities across the nation have waited decades for remediation and at the current levels of funding will have to wait for over 40 years before the job is done. In order to address this problem, I am submitting the following amendment with my colleague Congresswoman BROWN-WAITE in order to properly finish the job of environmental clean up at former military bases before we can fully address a new round of cleanup.

The amendment I am offering decreases by \$201,000,000 the Base Realignment and Closure Account 2005 account and increases the Base Realignment and Closure Account 1990 by \$50,000,000 in order to work towards this goal. CBO has scored this amendment as outlay neutral.

CENTRAL DAVIDSON HIGH SCHOOL—OUR PERFECT SOFTBALL CHAMPIONS

HON. HOWARD COBLE

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 12, 2007

Mr. COBLE. Madam Speaker, pitching a perfect game is certainly an amazing feat on its own. Pitching a perfect game in the championship, however, is something particularly special. Words cannot describe just how rare this feat is. So, please allow me to brag for just a bit about the remarkable achievements of Chelsea Leonard and the rest of the North Carolina State High School Athletic Association 2-A softball champion Central Davidson High School Spartans.

On June 2, 2007, Ms. Leonard pitched Central Davidson to a resounding 4–0 victory over South Brunswick High School, while not allowing a single hit. She also struck out 18 of 21 batters. And on her way to winning MVP of the tournament, she tallied an impressive 53 strikeouts while compiling a 3–0 record. What's more, she didn't allow a single run or even a hit for 19 innings. Folks, these numbers are simply off the charts.

And while Chelsea—a sophomore no less—performed spectacularly throughout the state tournament, the rest of the team was equally impressive. In the run-up to the Spartans' second consecutive year in the state softball finals, every member of the team contributed to a sparkling 32–1 record. So, please allow me to recognize every member of this fine team: Ashley Hulin, Tess Swing, Carrie Jernigan, Whitney Lohr, Heather Lanier, Nicole Perry, Lindsay Thore, Hannah Buie, Alison Lohr, Erin Cole, Gina Antonucci, and

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